

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 92

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CLASSIC SHORTS FEATURED IN WEEKLY FILM PROGRAM

Five programs of short films from the 1930s and 1940s will be presented Wednesdays at Noon throughout the month of August, beginning August 2, at The Museum of Modern Art. The special series is part of the Wednesday-at-Noon program, which features a variety of shorts, art films, and documentaries presented throughout the year under the direction of Margareta Akermark, Associate Director of the Department of Film.

While the short subject has virtually disappeared from movie screens today, in the 1930s and 1940s no film program would have been complete without a newsreel, cartoon, two-reel comedy, and novelty-reel, according to Leonard Maltin, who has programmed this series and whose book "The Great Movie Shorts" was recently published by Crown.

Many popular entertainers of the day recorded their most successful routines and songs in short films. In addition, shorts were a valuable training ground for young actors, actresses, and directors, many of whom went on to fame in feature films. Among the entertainers who will appear in the Museum series are Fatty Arbuckle, Ben Turpin, Bing Crosby, Burns and Allen, Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, and Robert Benchley.

"The amazing thing about these films is how fresh they seem today," notes Maltin. Without the pressures that accompanied the making of features, the people who made shorts had fun, "and it is this more than anything that is communicated to the audience," Maltin adds.

Admission to the Museum on Wednesdays is on a pay-what-you-wish basis; seating for films is first come, first served.

Please turn over for the schedule of Wednesday-at-Noon programs in August.

(OVER)

The schedule of short films follows. Each program is approximately 60 minutes long.

August 2

RADIO RHYTHM. 1929. With Rudy Vallee.
BUZZIN' AROUND. 1933. With Fatty Arbuckle.
A TALE OF TWO CAFES. 1946. Technicolor musical.

August 9

I NEVER FORGET A FACE. 1951. By Robert Youngson.
KEYSTONE HOTEL. 1935. With Ben Turpin.
CALIFORNIA WEATHER. 1933. With Ruth Etting.

August 16

HOLLYWOOD ON PARADE. 1932. With Bing Crosby, Burns and Allen.
RATTLING ROMEO. 1939. With Charley Chase.
THE LAST INSTALLMENT. 1945.

August 23

YOU CAN'T WIN. 1948. A Pete Smith "specialty."
JAMMIN' THE BLUES. 1944. By Gjon Mili.
YOU DEAR BOY. 1943. With Vera Vague.
HOLLYWOOD HOBBIES. 1935. With Grantland Rice.

August 30

PARAMOUNT PICTORIAL. 1934. With Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway.
YOU'RE TELLING ME. 1932.
HOW TO EAT. 1938. With Robert Benchley.
SO YOU'RE GOING ON VACATION. 1947. With Joe McDoakes.

Additional information available from Lillian Gerard, Special Projects Coordinator, and Mark Segal, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 956-7296.

August 1972